



# MDE Recommends

## KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT AGE and ALTERNATIVE KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS

The section of the *Revised School Code* that addresses this issue is contained in the Michigan Compiled Law under MCL 380.1147.

### ***Enrollment Age***

Michigan law entitles a child who is 5 years of age by December 1 to enroll in kindergarten. The law provides:

- (1) *A person, resident of a school district not maintaining a kindergarten and at least 5 years of age on the first day of enrollment of the school year, shall have a right to attend school in the district.*
- (2) *In a school district where provision is made for kindergarten work, a child, resident of the district, is entitled to enroll in the kindergarten if the child is at least 5 years of age on December 1 of the school year of enrollment. In a school district which has semiannual promotions, a child, resident of the district, is entitled to enroll in kindergarten for the second semester if the child is at least 5 years of age on March 1 of the year of enrollment.*

### ***Alternative Programs, Attorney General Opinion***

The Michigan Attorney General ruled in an opinion cited as 1987 OAG 6467 that when a child is qualified by residence and age to attend kindergarten, the school district is obligated to accept the child's enrollment in kindergarten despite any recommendation of school district personnel that the child attend an alternative developmental kindergarten program.